10. Prof. Shankar N. Acharya,
Former Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance and Honorary Professor, ICRIER

Co-opted Members

Shri N.K. Singh,
Former Member, Planning Commission

Shri Nitin Desai,
Former Dy. Secretary-General UN Conference on Environment and Development and Presently Honorary Professor, ICRIER

Ms. Chanda Kochhar, Dy.
Managing Director, ICICI
Bank Limited

Overseas Members

Prof. Arvind Panagariya,
Professor of Economics and Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy, Columbia University.

Member Secretary

Dr. Rajiv Kumar,
Director and Chief Executive.

Rise in tyre prices despite reduction in duties

1701. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite reduction in the duties, prices of tyres have been going up; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to address this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Tyre is a de-licensed and de-reserved item. Tyre prices are determined by market forces. Tyre prices have increased primarily due to increase in input-prices and increased demand for tyres.

(b) Government has reduced customs duty from 12.5% to 10% to make imports of tyres cheaper and augment the supply of tyres. Under Regional Trade Agreements, tyres can also be imported at preferential rates of customs duty which would be lower than 10%.

Review of spices and plantation sector in Kerala

1702. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governrnent propose to review the spices and plantation sector in Kerala in the near future;